

REMARKS

Claims 1-21, and 45-57 remain in the application. Claims 22-44 and 58-60 have been cancelled and have been made the subject of a divisional application filed on February 12, 2008. Claims 45-54 have been withdrawn from consideration as the result of the Examiner's restriction requirement.

Restriction Requirement

The Examiner has required restriction to one of the following inventions under 35 USC 121 and 372.

Group I, claims 1-21 and 55-57 drawn to an adhesive article having non-adhesive material forms;

Group II, claims 22-44 and 58-60 drawn to an adhesive article having an embossed release surface and molding layer;

Group III, claims 45-51 drawn to a method of making an adhesive article having non-adhesive material; and

Group IV, claims 52-54 drawn to a method of making an adhesive article having embossed release surface.

The Examiner has suggested that the application contains the above groups of inventions which are not linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: claim 1 is either obvious over or anticipated by WO 01/81080. Accordingly, the Examiner has maintained that the special technical feature linking the four inventions, an adhesive article having a release liner, does not provide a contribution over the prior art and no single general inventive concept exists. The Examiner has concluded that restriction is appropriate.

Applicant hereby elects to prosecute the claims of Group I, namely, claims 1-21 and 55-57. As noted above, the claims of Group II, namely, claims 22-44 and 58-60 have been cancelled and made the subject of a divisional application. The claims of

Groups III and IV have been maintained in this application but have been withdrawn from consideration at this time. An early action on the merits with respect to the elected claims is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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